

Mitch Randles, Fire Chief

## Temple Fire & Rescue Media Advisory

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September 4, 2015

## **Temple Fire & Rescue New Outdoor Warning Siren Test Process**

The City of Temple Fire and Rescue has adopted a new outdoor warning siren testing process. The new test process will perform a normal audible test of the all sirens by sounding them for 1 minute on the First Saturday of each month (This Saturday September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2015 will be a full test). All other Saturdays will be a test which will briefly operate each of the sirens functions and the siren will only be briefly audible in the immediate area around the siren. This process is made possible due to the installation of new computer software which monitors the readiness and operation of all outdoor warning sirens and immediately reports any siren failures to Temple Fire Rescue Staff. Sirens are not tested on days where hazardous weather is in the area.

We would also like to remind residents that Outdoor Warning sirens are only designed to alert people who are outdoors. It is likely that you would not hear the warning sirens inside your home or in any of the city's businesses. Residents are reminded to take a multi-layer approach to being weather aware and safe.

## These layers include:

- 1. Be weather aware.
  - a. Keep current with the daily weather forecast and be alert for changing conditions.
- 2. Monitor local media outlets.
  - a. If severe weather is forecast local media outlets will provide the most up to date weather information.
- 3. Have a primary warning system.
  - a. Obtain and monitor a NOAA weather radio.
  - b. If you have a cell phone you can subscribe to one of the many weather notification applications which are readily available and alert you to issued weather warnings.

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- 4. Be alert to the sounding outdoor warning sirens.
  - a. If they are sounded, immediately seek refuge inside a substantial building if possible.

Temple Fire Rescue would also like to remind all Temple residents that outdoor warning sirens will only be sounded for storm warnings which include a portion of the City of Temple in the path of or projected path of a storm.

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